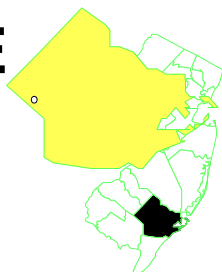


GARDEN STATE CLEANERS NEW JERSEY

EPA ID# NJD053280160



EPA REGION 2
CONGRESSIONAL DIST. 02
Atlantic County
Buena Borough

Site Description

Garden State Cleaners (GSC) is a commercial dry cleaning facility that has been operating since 1969. In an investigation of GSC in 1984, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection detected high levels of the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) tetrachloroethylene (PCE) and trichloroethylene (TCE) in soils below a steam discharge pipe. Off-site monitoring wells located adjacent to and down gradient from the companies contain large quantities of VOCs, which has forced some residential private wells to close and the Borough to construct a new municipal water supply system. Approximately 9,000 people obtain drinking water, and 3,800 acres of farmland are irrigated from wells within 3 miles of the site. The GSC site is located approximately 500 feet south of the South Jersey Clothing Company (SJCC) site, also on the NPL. The GSC and SJCC sites were addressed in a combined investigation due to their proximity to one another and similar contamination.

Site Responsibility: This site is being addressed through Federal actions.

NPL LISTING HISTORY

Proposed Date: 06/24/88

Final Date: 03/31/89

Threats and Contaminants



Groundwater is contaminated with VOCs, primarily PCE and TCE. Use of contaminated groundwater for domestic purposes and agricultural irrigation may pose a health threat. Private residences located within the borough boundary down gradient from the sites are connected to the municipal water supply system.

Cleanup Approach

This site is being addressed in two phases. A small-scale soil vapor extraction (SVE) system was installed at the site in spring 1994 and operation of the system began in June 1994. Cleanup of the soils was completed in March 1995. A design for the extraction and treatment of the contaminated groundwater was completed in August 1995. Construction of the groundwater extraction and treatment system was begun in fall 1997 and was completed in January 1999. The system has been operating since February 1999.

Response Action Status



Entire Site: EPA began an intensive investigation of the sites in 1989 to determine the nature and extent of contamination and to identify alternatives for cleanup of the sites. Based on the results of the investigation, the following remedy was chosen: (1) in-situ treatment of contaminated soil via the vapor extraction process; (2) extraction of groundwater with concentrations of VOCs above cleanup levels; (3) treatment of groundwater with an on-site air stripping column and carbon adsorption units; (4) reinjection of the treated water into the aquifer; and (5) long-term monitoring of groundwater.

Site Facts: Based on information obtained from the site owners and other sources, EPA determined that the company is neither financially nor technically capable of undertaking the remedial actions chosen. Instead, EPA is conducting the required work using Trust Fund monies.

Cleanup Progress



(Actual Construction Underway)

Cleanup of the soils was completed in March 1995. The design for the groundwater extraction and treatment system was completed in August 1995. To prepare for the implementation of this system, an existing structure at the SJCC site was demolished in spring 1997. Construction of the groundwater extraction and treatment system was begun in fall 1997 and was completed in January 1999. After construction was completed, an initial 30-day period of operations was conducted and completed in February 1999. The system has been operating since February 1999. The groundwater

system is presently undergoing several adjustments to optimize plant functions. The most important adjustment is the abatement of a naturally occurring bacteria that has been clogging the injection wells necessitating replacement of several of the injection wells.